

## GERMANS MAKE MORE PROGRESS AGAINST FRENCH

Persistent Attempts to Reduce Salients in French Lines Near Verdun Are Resulting in Steady Progress for Operations

### PARIS ADMITS GERMAN ADVANCES

Declares, However, on Opposite Side of the Salient Advantage in Recent Fighting Has Been With French

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] Persistent attempts by the Germans to reduce the salients in the French lines northwest of Verdun are resulting in steady progress for the operation. Attacks are being driven home on both sides of the salient, at the northern angle of which the village of Bethincourt, but more particularly on the western edge in the vicinity of Haucourt.

Berlin reports the capture of two strong points of support to the south of Haucourt which passed recently into German hands, an entire French position along a front of more than a mile and a quarter coming into Teutonic possession. Paris has admitted German advances here, but declares that on the opposite side of the salient the advantage in the recent fighting has been with the French. The present German activity in the Verdun region is confined almost entirely to this operation, although the artillery in other sections around the fortress is being intermittently employed.

On the eastern front there have been no operations of major importance, so far as the official reports show. The Russians apparently are limiting their activity at present for the most part to the Lake Narocz region, south of Dvinsk, and Berlin declares that such attacks as have been made there were along a narrow front and were easily repulsed.

Violent fighting is taking place on the Austro-Italian front, the Austrians being on the aggressive in several sectors and reporting considerable success, with the capture of numerous prisoners.

The Austrian aeroplanes which were part of a squadron which raided railway stations back of the hostile lines, failed to return to their base and apparently have fallen victim to the Italians.

Several additional vessels have been sunk in the course of the German submarine campaign, and Paris officially announces the sinking of an Austrian transport in the Adriatic by a French submarine.

**The Italian Statement**  
ROME, (Via London) April 9.—The official communication given out today (Continued on Page Three)

## GERMANY'S DISCLAIMER LEAVES IT TO U. S. TO PROVE SUSSEX SHELLED

### SCHOONER AND CREW ARE BELIEVED LOST

EUREKA, Cal., April 8.—Searchers for possible survivors of the wreck of the gasoline schooner Magnolia which was found floating bottom side up off the mouth of the Klamath river early today, reported tonight that they found no trace either of Captain Edward Johnson or his crew of four men. All are believed to have perished and the vessel is being towed back into this port, which she left yesterday bound for Requa, a small settlement at the mouth of Klamath river. It was thought practically certain here that Captain Johnson and the four members of the crew perished.

## GERMANY SAYS NO SUBMARINE STRUCK SUSSEX

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] BERLIN, April 8 (Via London).—The German government is able to announce that no German submarine or warship was responsible for the explosion which damaged the British steamship Sussex.

When Germany, on April 5, handed Ambassador Gerard an interim note replying to the inquiries of the United States government regarding the Sussex and the four other steamers, the matter of responsibility was still in doubt and the investigation was still proceeding. The German foreign office, appreciating the agitation in the United States over these cases, transmitted an interim response, declaring the readiness of the government should the Sussex prove to have been destroyed by a German torpedo contrary to the understanding with the United States to make all reparation, including the payment of compensation.

The Associated Press was authoritatively informed today that the investigation has now been completed; that all the craft which must possibly have been involved in an attack on the Sussex have reported, and that from the reports of their commanders it is absolutely certain that the Sussex was not destroyed by a German torpedo, and that Germany is in no wise responsible for the disaster.

From the material at hand it will also be possible to reply to the American inquiries regarding the steamer Englishman, Manchester, Engineer, Eagle Point and Herwindale, and establish, according to the German contention, that no blame attaches to Germany.

### Additional Evidence of Torpedoing of Steamer May Force Crisis in Submarine Situation Despite Germany's Denial

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] WASHINGTON, April 8.—Germany's disclaimer of responsibility for the disaster of the channel steamer Sussex surrounds the position of the United States in the present submarine situation with further difficulties and may turn action, if any is taken, from the Sussex case itself to the accumulation of ships destroyed without warning since Germany gave assurance governing the submarine campaign.

Before the next step is taken, the collection of evidence intended to prove legally that the Sussex was destroyed by a German submarine, will have to proceed further. Additional evidence in the form of affidavits and statements gathered by the American embassy in Paris is arriving on the steamer St. Paul due in New York tomorrow and will be in President Wilson's hands Monday.

The situation will be thoroughly discussed at Tuesday's cabinet meeting and soon afterward a decision on the next step is expected. The apparent difficulties of proving the Sussex case alone leads many officials close to the president to believe the decision will hinge on consideration of cumulative evidence that Germany's promises are being disregarded by her submarine commanders. Upon the strength of that evidence as it is finally judged by the president and the cabinet will depend what steps, if any, the United States will take at this time.

The United States was described officially tonight as being placed in the position of a judge of a court of law. Upon the evidence a decision will be reached and the United States will be absolutely sure that it stands upon firm ground before rendering one. The final decision will be rendered by President Wilson. It is likely that if drastic action is called for, congress will be consulted.

While it will be difficult for the United States to question the good faith of Germany, the administration is prepared to act upon circumstantial evidence of sufficient strength should it be secured.

All the evidence thus far obtained indicates that the Sussex was torpedoed. There are two weaknesses in the case of the United States at this time, however. One is that no American citizen saw the wake of a torpedo. The other is that, while American naval officers declare that the metals removed from the hull are parts of a German torpedo there is, as far as known, no conclusive evidence at this time, that the metal fragments actually were removed from the Sussex.

Official reports regarding the announcement of the German government as cabled to the United States in press dispatches from Berlin were (Continued on Page Eleven)

## SENATE TO WORK ON ARMY BILL WITHOUT HALT

With Final Vote Coming on April 18, There is Much Speculation as to Form of Measure Going to the Committee

### WILL INCREASE PEACE STRENGTH

Both Sides Declare Will Support Clause Calling for More Than 180,000 Enlisted Men, Some Favoring Not Less Than 300,000

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] WASHINGTON, April 8.—With the final vote on the army organization bill assured in the senate on April 18, there still is much speculation as to the probable final form in which the first of the great national preparedness measures will go to the joint conference committee of the senate and the house.

The senate agreed today to devote to the army bill all its sessions between now and April 18, with the exception of next Monday and Tuesday, which were reserved for discussion of the free sugar repeal bill. The agreement contemplates final disposition of the army bill before adjournment April 18.

Some senators anticipate that a considerable increase will be made by the senate over the committee's proposal to fix the peace strength of the standing army at 180,000 enlisted men. Both republican and democratic members have declared on the floor they would support amendments for a greater figure, some advocating as large a force as 300,000. Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the military committee, originally proposed a peace strength of 250,000.

During the week of discussion on the bill there has been nothing to indicate the position of the majority of senators. It has been noticeable however that there have been no proposals to reduce the committee's figures. The bill passed by the house provides for a peace strength of 140,000 and the struggle to come in the conference committee is expected to be sharply outlined.

There are indications that the recent battle in the senate over the volunteer army plan will have an important bearing in the conference committee. The continental army project of the administration was particularly repugnant to the members of the house military committee. The senate's volunteer army proposal, retained in the bill by a close vote, is miniature reproduction of the abandoned continental army scheme.

Debate in the senate today was confined to the government nitrate plants projects. None of the pending amendments was voted on.

### MITCHELL DEFEATS MILLER

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] WILMINGTON, Del., April 8.—Returns from the statewide republican primary held today to elect delegates to the state convention which will name six national delegates and six alternates, indicated that Edmund Mitchell, state chairman of the party, had defeated Governor Charles E. Miller for national delegate. The convention will be held at Dover on Tuesday.

### AUTO KILLS BICYCLIST

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] SAN JOSE, Cal., April 8.—Louis Spache of this city, was instantly killed this morning while riding a bicycle which was run down near Sunnyvale by an automobile driven by Joseph Fassler, of 55 Niagara St.

## PREPAREDNESS IS USED AS CLOAK

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] WASHINGTON, April 8.—Legislators who seek to cloak out sorts of proposals under a plea of preparedness were denounced in the senate today by Senator Kenyon. In a speech for the proposal to provide in an army bill for the government-owned fertilizer plant, the Iowa senator read a letter from a former constituent urging support for a postoffice and public building "round like a fort" and with ornamental turrets and peaks for lookouts, so that "when the men are at the front fighting an invader, the women and children can take refuge in the post-office."

"Of course, if you side against your country and are untrue to the flag," said the letter, "you will oppose this building."

"First we passed the Shields dam bill," said Senator Kenyon, "because it was a preparedness bill. Then came along another dam bill, which were urged to pass as a part of the national defense. The child labor bill and the rural credits bill certainly are included as means of securing us against foes, and I suppose when the rivers and harbors appropriation bill comes along every supporter of every sad bottom and mud creek will insist that the safety of the nation requires an appropriation for his particular county seat."

## SAYS PURSUIT OF VILLA HAS BEEN HALTED--NO USE BLINKING AT THE FACTS

### Funston Pleased To Know Troops Not To Be Recalled

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 8.—General Funston's headquarters today when it was learned that Secretary Lansing and Secretary Baker flatly denied that the government was contemplating the withdrawal of American troops from Mexico. General Funston does not regard the task set him of breaking up "Villa's band of hands" as accomplished.

The net result of the three weeks' campaign against Villa is a killing of a few more than 150 of Villa's men and the extension of a line of American troops approximately 400 miles into Mexico. Villa's organization remains intact, so far as army officers here know. He has divided it into smaller units and one of these was attacked and defeated at Guerrero, but there is evidence that the fugitive chieftain, although perhaps wounded and possibly traveling on a stretcher, is yet directing in a general way their movements. General Pershing's frequent reports to headquarters continued throughout the week to indicate the optimism of himself and his officers that they soon would overtake Villa or his main force, but none of his reports have indicated that he regarded his task as accomplished.

Instead of anticipating an early withdrawal of the troops, General Funston has planned to stimulate the chase in every way possible, and in order to do this has daily watched for advances from Washington that Carranza had at last made it possible to use without restraint at least one of the railroads extending from Juarez. Failure to get this right, however, and realizing the impossibility of maintaining the 400-mile line from Columbus to the extreme front below Satevo, caused General Funston and his staff to consider seriously the establishment of a new base at some point on the border nearer the field of operations, perhaps Ojinaga, and from there the running south of a line of communications. Officially it was admitted that no change of base would be suggested to the war department unless permission to use the railroad was granted.

## BAKER THINKS VILLA WILL BE CAPTURED SOON

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] WASHINGTON, April 8.—Secretary Baker, informally denying today that immediate withdrawal from Mexico of the American expeditionary force was contemplated, indicated that the war department had information that the United States troops were close upon Villa's trail and that the expedition might soon accomplish the purpose of which it was sent across the border.

"The object of the expedition was stated when it was undertaken," said Secretary Baker. "It has never been changed. No other orders have been given and the expedition is busy pursuing it now with what I hope is a fair chance of early success."

Reports that preparations for withdrawal were under way were declared by Mr. Baker to have "absolutely no basis of any kind." All the war department's plans for pursuing the chase were going forward actively, he said. (Continued on Page Three)

### American Army Officer Holding High Position of Responsibility Says Even Layman Can Understand Present Hard Task

## MUST HAVE USE OF RAILROADS

Border is Anticipating Some Great Events, While Reports Say Many Carranza Troops Are Concentrating Near Boundary Line

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] EL PASO, April 8.—The pursuit of Villa has been brought to a definite halt, according to a statement made here tonight by an American army officer holding a position of responsibility.

"There is no use blinking at the facts," he said. "Even a layman should be able to understand that General Pershing, with the relatively small number of men under his command cannot maintain lines of communication anywhere from 300 to 500 miles long and at the same time press the pursuit of a bandit into a country where he is known to have thousands of sympathizers if not actual supporters."

"With the free use of the Mexican railroads we could still hope to effect something but apparently there is no hope of such a concession, at least at present. I cannot see that the army can do anything more until the railroad problem is settled in our favor or substantial reinforcements are sent General Pershing. I know nothing about reports that the withdrawal of the troops is contemplated. That is a question for Washington to decide. It is hardly necessary for me to say that it is a solution which would be a bitter pill for us."

The border is in the state tonight of a man holding his breath in anticipation of some great and imminent events. Statements from Mexican officials here and in Juarez, coupled with the dispatches from Washington, are accepted as intimations that a speedy and sensational development in the situation is coming. In connection with this feeling, reports continue to come from a dozen different sources of the concentration of Carranza troops near the border. These reports come in such a manner that they cannot be ignored and it is known that they have been forwarded to Washington as credible.

For over a week it has been reported here that additional Carranza troops were on their way to Juarez and that General Gaviro, the present commander in the Mexican town, was to be superseded.

A statement from Mexican sources tonight declared positively that General (Continued on Page Three)

## Wild Bob Burman Killed In Corona Race Accident

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] CORONA, Cal., April 8.—Eddie O'Donnell won the third Corona boulevard race today in a "Roman holiday."

Bob Burman of Detroit, the race driver, his mechanic, Eric Schroeder of Chicago, and a guard, W. H. Spier, of Corona, all were killed or died soon after the race and five others were injured when Burman's car lurched off the track.

### THE DEAD

BOB BURMAN, Eric Schroeder, Burman's mechanic, of Chicago.  
W. H. SPIER, of Corona, a track guard, crushed by Burman's car.

### THE INJURED

F. E. BAKER, San Bernardino, right leg injured.  
H. COHN, Ontario, back and thigh cut and bruised.  
WILLIAM M. DEWEY, Upland, left leg injured.  
EARL DAVIDSON, Hemet, ankle injured.  
S. R. MEEK, San Francisco, leg broken.

Burman died at 6:10 o'clock tonight in the city hospital at Riverside, where he was taken from the temporary race hospital after the accident. The long ride, twelve miles, in an ambulance from Corona to Riverside, exhausted the dying driver and he died within ten minutes after he had reached the hospital.

Mrs. Burman was with her husband soon after the accident in the 9th lap and remained with him until he died.

"The race itself, which dwindled into minor importance in the swift happenings that marked its close, was in itself a contest between mechanics and drivers." O'Donnell, Burman, Eddie Pullen, (Continued on Page Eleven)



"Wild Bob" Burman

### THE STATISTICS

The order of finish and the times were:  
1—Eddie O'Donnell .....3:29:52  
2—Joe Thomas .....3:36:01  
3—Eddie Pullen .....3:38:36-2-5  
4—Teddy Tetzlaff .....3:58:04-12  
5—R. C. Durant .....4:05:24-7-10  
E. S. Waterman was sixth in the running, but was flagged.

The prizes offered for the six places were in order, \$5,000 and temporary possession of the Corona trophy cup, \$3,000, \$2,000, \$1,000, \$700 and \$200, unawarded in the race today.

## Woman Robs Dying Racer; Ghoul-Like Act Charged

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] CORONA, Cal., April 8.—As Mrs. Burman stood beside her dying husband in the council chamber of the Corona city hall, awaiting the verdict of the surgeons, a woman, who gave the police the name of Mrs. Mary Clark of Los Angeles, came beside the cot.

The physician who was removing Burman's clothing told the authorities that he found a diamond pin and handed it to a woman back of him, whom he supposed to be Mrs. Burman. He said he did not look around. Mrs. Clark then accused Mrs. Clark of taking the pin, which, she said, was valued at \$800. A. C. Ramsey, chief of police, ordered Mrs. Clark searched. He reported that two nurses found concealed under her corset the diamond pin which Mrs. Burman alleged was taken from her husband's clothing as he lay near death. The woman was held, Ramsey said, pending the filing of a formal charge.

Mrs. Clark, the woman accused by Mrs. Burman, later was identified, according to the police, as one who drove across the temporary viaduct over the race course, knocking off the viaduct A. B. Jellsey at the end she entered and bumping into Dr. Billingsley of Santa Ana at the opposite end of the viaduct. Neither was seriously injured.

Mrs. Clark said she came to the hospital to see her victims, when the police questioned her.

## ARIZONA PROGRESSIVES HOLD ROUSING CONVENTION AT BISBEE

(Special to The Republican) BISBEE, Ariz., April 8.—The progressive convention today was attended by forty-six delegates. Co-chairs coming having the largest delegation of thirty. Many local progressives including a number of women were present. David Benshoof was elected chairman and Paul Herwald of Tucson, secretary.

After organization and the reading of the report of credentials committee the following delegates were elected to the progressive national convention with half a vote each: J. C. Greenway, Dwight B. Heard, J. C. Compton, J. L. B. Alexander, Thomas Marshall and Frank P. Moore. They were unopposed. The following alternates were also elected: Baughn, Wilkinson, Tuttle, Cretton, Brazleton and Clark.

The convention adopted the following resolution: "Resolved, That the progressive party of Arizona stands for the principles of Americanism, preparedness and efficiency."

By a unanimous rising vote the convention endorsed the following resolution of Delegate Thomas of Co-chise: "It is the sense of this convention that Theodore Roosevelt should be the next president of the nation."

The convention by resolution reaffirmed the position of the progressives in favor of equal suffrage. Short but strong talks were made by Greenway, Wilkinson, Mellett and others. A rousing song to the tune of "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight" composed by George Wilcox, was sung by the entire gathering. The convention then adjourned with three cheers for Colonel Roosevelt.

## Tariff Will Be Great Issue of Next National Campaign

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] CHICAGO, April 8.—Republican leaders from various sections of the country met tonight at the banquet of the Hamilton club. Among the speakers were Senator Warren G. Harding of Ohio, named yesterday as temporary chairman of the republican national convention and Senator L. L. Sherman of Illinois, presidential candidate. Senator Harding responded to the toast "looking forward" extolled republicanism and predicted a speedy return of republican administration.

Asserting that the tariff will be the great issue of the coming campaign Senator Harding said: "There will be more spectacular issues, there will be the patriotic appeal for preparedness, with republicans committed to an adequate program for national defense."

"One is reluctant to criticize the administration in its foreign policy at a time of anxiety like the present day. I had rather present a united front to the world even at the sacrifice of some notions of my own than conveying the impression of a divided people."

"We are pursuing Villa and his robber band and the nation approves, but had the Wilson administration omitted its needless meddling in Mexico which includes the needless encouragement of both Carranza and Villa, this pursuit would have been unnecessary, and opprobrium and insult and the sacrifice of many American lives and much property in Mexico probably would have been avoided."

"When we encourage American enterprise and capital to go into foreign lands, under treaty rights, every American assurance ought to go with them."